

LITERARY NOTES.

"My Lady Greensleeves," by the author of "Comin' Tho' the Rye," is the title of one of the latest English novels.

Bret Harte's new story, "The Twins of Taboo Mountain," has been published in London by Messrs. Chatto & Windus.

Dr. Schlemann authorizes *The Athenaeum* to state that he has no intention of bringing out a new book on Troy for several years to come.

Mr. Murray, the London publisher, announces a "Memoir of Edward and Catherine Stanley," edited by their son, the Dean of Westminster.

The author of "Diplomatic Sketches by an Outsider," has a new work in the London bookstores entitled "Mr. Gladstone and the Greek Question."

The Athenaeum states that Mr. Darwin has translated from the German the sketch of the life of his grandfather, Dr. Erasmus Darwin, written by Dr. Krause, and proposes to publish a preliminary notice.

Mr. Swinburne has just completed for *The Gentleman's Magazine* a note on the historical play of King Edward III., in which he discusses the question of Shakespeare's authorship of that play.

A new work by George Baden-Powell, which has appeared in London under the title "Protection and Bad Times," treats comprehensively of the political economy of commercial depressions.

R. Worthington announces the immediate issue of "White and Black," by Sir George Campbell, M.P. This volume, which has had a large sale in England, contains the impressions which the author gained during an extended tour chiefly in the South and West.

The English scholar, Mr. E. B. Tylor, has placed in the hands of Messrs. Macmillan & Co. the first portion of a work called "Man and Civilization," on which he has been long engaged. It is designed to serve as a text-book of anthropology, and will be printed uniform with Professor Huxley's "Physiography." Professor Ray Lankester has undertaken to contribute chapters on the anatomical portion of the subject.

Considerable curiosity has been manifested as to whether the article "Sous Hamlet and Home Town," in *Harper's Magazine* for August, is truth, fiction, or a deft combination of both, and whether or not "The Smugger" has a local habitation and a name. No one who, in childhood's happy hours, waded sometimes around the Congregational Church as a punishment for stealing Deacon Abernethy's "early sweets," or made a lonely pilgrimage to Judi's Bridge as recompence for hiding a bucklerberry pie between the sheets of his bed, will need to be told that Mr. F. W. Gunn's school, at Washington, Conn., is still a blessed reality. The school kept by Mr. Gunn, "the smugger" was always called "The Gunnery" and "Mr. Gunn" in Mr. Gibson's breezy article.

Mr. Gladstone in the course of his recent lecture on Homer, delivered in the library of Eton College, undertook to prove that the Iliad and Odyssey were really the work of one poet—constructed at the time of the Trojan war, and were not the composite works of several persons culled at a much later period of the Greek history, as advanced by Mr. Paley and other scholars. Mr. Gladstone quoted numerous passages from the Iliad and Odyssey to show the poetic nature of Homer's composition, and drew the attention of the students to the splendid formation of the rhythm in many of his lines. Had the Homeric poems been constructed at the period of Athenian history mentioned by some, Athens would have taken a prominent place in the events recorded; but as it was, Athens was a State having the smallest possible share in the great events of the Iliad, Mycenæ being the crown State of all the States of Greece according to Homer. It would be somewhat surprising to find that in the fifth century before Christ a number of men sat down to reproduce events which had occurred many centuries before. It was a very difficult thing to reproduce the manners and customs of times long gone by, and, as a rule, historians in such cases treated them very generally, and not with the sharpness depicted in the poems of Homer. The best instance of success in such a direction was the case of Sir Walter Scott, but then he was able to draw largely upon his horizons. It was a pure hypothesis that the Homeric poems were compiled in the fifth century before Christ, and no man was able to tell about any one who had helped to produce them. The mythology of the Homeric poems was too far removed from the common mythologies of the time to be of any value.

The Homeric poems were originally brought forward by the master Homer. Mr. Gladstone also remarked on the curious similarity of expressions used by Shakespeare in Hamlet's enigma of his father and the language of Homer when singing of his own heroes.

A translation of a Turkish manuscript written by Suleiman Pacha during his nine months' imprisonment, has recently been published in Constantinople. It is a record of the military mistakes of the war. The author accuses Roust Pacha of having given him false information with the object of alone gaining the credit of encountering General Ghourko while he was crossing the Balkans, and of having by his heedless precipitation caused disasters which Suleiman afterward had to retrieve. As to Osman and Mehmet Ali, Suleiman says: "At the moment when I advanced with my troops from Yeni-Sagra toward the Schipka Pass a lively exchange of dispatches took place between me and the two Marshals, Osman Pacha and Mehmet Ali Pacha. I had proposed to both that they should advance toward Tirnova and Mehemet Ali with the Danubian army from the east, and Osman Pacha through Servia from the west. In this manner my way through the Schipka Pass would have been left free. But Mehmet Ali could not make up his mind to abandon his position; he over, on the contrary, withdrew his advanced troops from Osman-Bazar and Eskil-Jouna, in order to attack the Russians on the Lower Danube, in the Rustchuk district. On the fourth day of our attack on Schipka the Russians had already obtained considerable reinforcements. I recognized the difficulties of the situation, but still hoped for the success of the combined movement I had proposed, not dreaming that the very opposite had been done. Thus the Russians gained time daily; they called in reinforcements, strengthened their positions, and crushed my army, which had suffered terrible losses, I had fifty battalions, making altogether 27,000 men; my losses consisted of 5,763 wounded and 1,064 dead." Suleiman adds that, after the second repulse of the Russians at Pleven, he advised that Osman Pacha should leave the place and join him in the attack on the Danube, in order to free the Russians in the Schipka Pass, while Suleiman himself would have made an attempt to force the passage of the Balkans in order to disengage Osman. This plan, however, was given by the obstinacy of Mustapha Pacha, the minister for War.

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